

Review of Mental/Behavioral Health Measures

Background:

At the request of two committee members we were asked to consider measures that address the mental health population. There is concern about the effectiveness of the Follow-Up after Hospitalization for Mental Illness measure, particularly with respect to follow-up within 7 days. When asked which measure or measures they would like to include they put forth the following two measures for consideration:

| Measure | Mental Health Treatment Penetration (Priority) | Psychiatric Hospitalization Readmission Rate |
|--------------------|---|---|
| Steward | NA | NA |
| Aligns with | 5732/1519 | 5732/1519 |
| Data Source | Will be DSHS/RDA but they have not yet defined the measure. Data will ultimately come from the Behavioral Health Organizations (BHOs) | Not defined yet |

These are both measures that are on the 5732/1519 measure set that includes 51 measures to integrate behavioral health services. They will not be focusing on all the measures at one time, but the Mental Health Treatment measure is one of their first priorities. They are currently in the process of defining numerator/denominator, etc. The plan is to include in 2016 contracts.

The same goes for the Psychiatric Hospitalization Readmission Rate measure, they are still working to define this, but not as much of a priority as the treatment measure.

Discussed with DSHS staff and they favor the treatment measure, as it has the potential to have a broader impact. There is also a recommendation to consider retaining the Follow-Up after Hospitalization for Mental Illness measure, but limiting it to 30 days follow-up.

Another consideration is to include the SBIRT measure as a supporting measure to insure that patients with a mental health condition are identified early and referred to treatment if necessary. While we may not have a lot of data on SBIRT at this point, it is a start.